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must in all cases send stamps for that purpose,

The Municipal Assembly Must Go.

Mr. Bind S. Colen, the Comptroller of the city of New York, is dissatisfied with the neglect of the Municipal Assembly to act upon appropriations which require the approval of that body before the money can be applied for purposes of public improvement or the payment of city indebtedness.

This feeling on the part of Mr. Coler is creditable to an officer who is anxious to: the Municipal Assembly, by reason of the members or the refusal of a sufficient obstructed proposed bond issues or approbeen made or suggested by anybody, and which have been earnestly recommended by the Mayor and heads of departments. In this condition of things the Comptroller is inclined to believe that the Legislature | certainly encounter a disastrous defeat at alone can afford relief by amending the the hands of the opponents of Ritualism, charter so as to deprive the Municipal Assembly of the veto power which it thus practically exercises over the financial administration of the city; and he has declared that he will ask Covernor ROOSEVELT to call a special session for this purpose if

ever, that the application will result in any The evil is so obvious and serious that recognized at once; while there can be no the precise form of charter amendment

which will afford the most efficient remedy. The failure of the Municipal Assembly to fulfil the expectations as to its usefulness which were entertained by the framers of the Greater New York Charter is another Illustration of the weakness which seems manifesting itself in the legislative branch of government in modern American institutions. Improvement is evident throughout the country in the executive and admin-Istrative departments and in the judiclary, but it is not so in legislative bodies generally. A notable exception, however, may be found in the Boards of Supervisors of the rural counties in New York. These boards possess very considerable legislative powers, which they exercise for the most part with credit to themselves and benefit to their constituents.

Will the British Parliament Be Soon Dissolved?

Lord SELBORNE, the Under Secretary for the Colonies, that the Unionists " were approaching the electoral zone," has been contradicted by another member of the Government, it is believed in London that the expediency of dissolving Parliament at an early date is seriously discussed. At the first glance all the arguments seem to be against such a proposal but upon reflection, it will be found that a good deal may be said in favor of it.

It is true, of course, that the legal life of E British Parliament is seven years, and so long as a Prime Minister can retain a madurity in the House of Commons he is elroughly tempted to wait until near the expiration of the statutory term before incurring the risk and expense of a new generat election. The House of Commons which came into existence in 1874, and which steadily uplied Lord Beaconspield's Government, lasted until 1880, and the House which was enosen in the summer or 1886, and in which the Unionists secured a stable majority, was not dissolved until June, 1892. If these precedents were followed, addissolution would not take place before 1991, and a cogent reason for following them seems to be supplied by the fact that the huge Ministerial majority seems unshaken. Level Salismuny can hardly expect to do better than to repeat the extraordinary success which he gained in 1895. What counterbalancing advantage can be looked for, then, from an experiment which, at least, involves the possibility of lessening the prependerance which is, at present, possessed by the Unionist party in the House of Commons ?

1 Those who advocate a dissolution answer that the very strength possessed by Lord BALISHURY'S Government at the present time is an argument for seeking forthwith a new mandate from the electors, instead of waiting until events may have dimintshed its popularity in the country at large. If a general election were to take place within a month, the chances seem overwhelmingly in favor of a Unionist victory at the ballot box. Two years, or even a twelvementh hence, the prospect may be materially changed. The political pendulum which, since the passage of the first Reform act, has oscillated with a close appreach to regularity may have swung in a Liberal direction. Just now the Liberals pre disorganized, but that is a source of weakness which time may remove. From the ruck of nominal and second-rate commanders a great standard bearer may emerge. For the moment, however, the Liberals are so divided that vigorous coand the Irish vote in Great Britain, which is large, could not be relied upon by nomidisposed to revert to the programme of 1885, or, in other words, to throw over the canal.

home rule. Sharp, too, is the antagonism between the Imperialist element of the Liberal party and the Little Englander section, of which

political history, assume that the vitality of the Liberal party is irreparably sapped. It seemed to be threatened with disintegration in 1874, yet, six years later, it was as strong as ever. It experienced, in June, 1886, a disruption which was believed by many onlookers to be fatal, and which did bring about defeat at the ballot box in the following month. Nevertheless, six years later the party regained ascendancy. Remembering these things, some of Lord Salisbury's stanchest friends are urging him to take advantage of the temporary demoralization in the Liberal ranks and appeal immediately to the electors, from whom a favorable response may

now be counted on with certainty. The strongest argument for an early dissolution is based upon the fact that there is, for the moment, a hill in the contest over Ritualism. The full was secured by Sir RICHARD WEBSTER'S amendment to the Church Discipline bill, an amendment providing that the Bishops should have a little more time in which to try to repress abuses before the interposition of the legislature should be invoked. When that time expires, the Salisbury Government will have to show its hand distinctly, either for the Ritualists or against them. It an take no definite stand, however, upon this question without exciting dissensions in the ranks of its own followpromote the we fare and preserve the credit | ers. The question whether practices, which of the Greater New York. Again and again | by Protestant Dissenters and by the Evangelical element in the Anglican Communion non-attendance of a sufficient number of are stigmatized as "Popish," shall be tolerated in the Church of England is one number to act when present, has which deeply stirs the feelings and which, consequently, is likely to overshadow all printions to which no objection has ever | other issues. It is not inconceivable that, even in the present House of Commons, Lord Salisbury's Government might be beaten, should it take the Ritualistic side,

and at a general election it would almost

seconded as these would be by the whole

body of Nonconformists. Home rule and

imperialism would be alike forgotten, and a

vast "No Popery" wave might sweep over

The difficulty encountered by Sir MICHAEL the members of the Municipal Assembly | Hicks-Beach in shaping the budget also discloses a rock ahead. It can be only a We recall no other instance in which a question of time when the tremendous rate Democratic city administration has been at which England's expenditure is increaswilling to make an appeal for relief to a ling will bring about a popular revulsion, Republican Legislature. No apprehension and commend once more, though it be only need be entertained in this instance, how- for a season, the Little Englander programme to the British taxpayer. There is political disadvantage to those who make a limit to all things, even, as experience has shown, to the amount of money that the necessity and propriety of relief will be Britons are willing to spend upon their fleet. Then, again, just now, Lord Salisbury's valid objection to being guided by the ex- treatment of the Chinese question is reperience of the Comptroller in determining | garded with something like satisfaction by the mass of his countrymen. A year hence It may be otherwise, for then the Incomparable superiority of the position ac quired by Russia will be better understood. Thus we see that a good deal can be said on behalf of the proposal that Lord Salisbury should dissolve Parliament at once, instead of waiting until near the close of its statu-

A Virginia Anti-Expansionist.

tory term.

A newspaper published within a few miles the Capitol of the United States, the Alexandria Gazette and Virginia Advertiser, pays this compliment to the soldiers of the Cnited States:

"The fact that 4,000 of the United States volumeer army in the Philippines have consented to re-main in those islands, though their term of enlistment has expired, shows what a profitable field for looting they afford, and fully sustains the reports previously sent from Manila in respect of the means by which United States troops in Luzon are teaching the natives thereof the benefits of civilization and

Here is a man, at least a creature classi fied as human, who says nakedly that the soldiers who have been fighting for the country which has the honor of counting him among its citizens, are thieves and looters in war and in peace. A soldier who wants to settle in the Philippines shows thereby that he remains for the sake of plunder. If he died he might be pardoned, for he would have helped to confirm the suspicions of BILLY MASON and the Anti-Imperialist League as to the climate, but if he lives, he lives for robbery. For this is an "unholy" war, conducted by American desperadoes for the destruction of the

the Tagat Washingtons and Hampdens. AGUINALDO may accuse the American soldiers in the Philippines of all sorts of atrocity and dishonesty, but he doesn't be lieve his charges. He is trying to gull his dupes and he is talking about his enemies. The Alexandria editor seems to believe his assumptions and he is talking about his own people.

liberty and the seizure of the property of

But let us not be unjust to this Alexandrian Agninaldian. He is only a little iamb of the flock that bleats and waddles after the old beliwether, GODKIN. Like the other extreme anti-imperialists he has carried his opposition to the Administration to the point of actual frenzy. He needs a dose of hellebore and he ought to be bled and have his head shaved. He is a rather good specimen of the fanatical or demoniacal auti-imperialist.

His talk and that of the rest of the gang, insulting as it is to the United States and its soldiers, will scarcely cause any anger. People will simply tap themselves on the forehead, sneer a little and go about their

The New Canal Commission.

The President's selection of the new Nic aragua Canal Commission gives assurance that no part of the inquiry contemplated | tion also being given to character and pecuby Congress in providing for it will fail to | niary needs. The holders of these scholarreceive thorough and able consideration. There are to be nine members instead of seven, as formerly reported. The experience of previous investigations is availed of in the new one by the appointment of Admiral Walker, Col. Hains and lish public schools, being intended pri-Mr. HAUPT of the last commission, and of Mr. Noble, the only member available of the Ludiow commission. The new engineering element includes Col. Errst of the army, Mr. Morrison and Prof. Burr. a very notable addition to the expert ability, while Prof. Johnson's specialty in commercial and statistical affairs will be useful operation seems impossible. Friends of in considering such questions as how much Lord Rosebert could hardly be expected to | the canal is likely to earn and how it will | GIL's Aeneld, a part of Livy, selections from support with fervor candidates known to affect American trade. Senator Pasco, of sympathize with Sir William Habcourt, | Florida, may perhaps be said to represent | In the senior class the pupil is also expected the question of practical legislation, as he is familiar with the bills and debates of | proficiency in the composition of Latin negs who, like Lord Rosebery, should be | Congress on the subject, which he has himself discussed with a general advocacy of

The noteworthy fact of the Walker Commission's report, recently submitted, is that the route on the Pacific slope selected is Mr. John Morley is the most conspicuous | nearly half a century ago, while the Atlantic | Greek, also, a member of the senior class | no doubt, count for more as education prorepresentative. But, we repeat, it is un- route is that of Lull, recommended over must read at sight and he must evince gresses in India, and the necessity for

things will last. One cannot, without shut- the route from Brito to the lake, has been ting the eyes to the lessons of recent practically settled for a long time, although there was formerly much discussion of the relative merits of the Medio and the Lajas routes

As to the middle and eastern sections it was also ascertained long ago that the San Juan River could be made navigable by dams from Lake Nicaragua as far east as Castillo Rapids, a distance of thirty-seven miles, and indeed even further, to perhaps half the way to the sea. In 1852 CHILDS, in a survey which may properly be considered the basis of everything since done, proposed to extend the summit level of the lake to Castillo Rapids, and then to prolong the navigation of the San Juan below that obstacle by seven dams and their locks to the Scrapiqui, ninety-one miles from the lake, the canal proper thence running along the bank of the San Juan to Greytown. Commander Lull's variation, in 1872, was to prolong the river navigation by four dams and locks from Castillo to San Carlos, where the canal would start, and proceed on the left bank to the outlet of the San Juanillo and thence to Greytown. This, in fact, is the route of the Walker Commission, except hat it provides for one dam instead of four, although an alternative plan sup-

plies two additional dams. Contrasted with this Lull or low level line, below the San Carlos, is the high level line which Engineer MENOCAL proposed in 1885. The boldness and ingenuity of this plan were evident, but there were some not wholly known factors, and a suitable construction of the Ochoa Dam and the various embankments seemed to the Ludlow Commission to be very costly, so that this body advised explorations of other routes below the San Carlos, including the "socalled low level line on the left bank of the San Juan to the San Juanillo, and thence to Greytown," and especially "the canalization of the river to the vicinity of the Serapiqui by means of comparatively low dams." The result was the adoption of this low level route by the Walker Commission.

The new Nicaragua Canal Commission marks another and a very important step towards the construction of the canal.

A Great American School.

Among the institutions which Englishmen regard with peculiar satisfaction are the so-called "public schools," which, however, are not public in the American sense, but are frequented chiefly by boys and young men belonging to the aristocracy and the upper middle class. By means of their endowment funds, however, a considerable number of intelligent youths of narrow means is prepared for the university, and, from this point of view, they may be looked upon as discharging a philanthropic as well as an educational function. In both respects they have some notable counterparts on this side of the Atlantic, among the oldest and most eminent of which is Phillips Academy at Exeter, N. H. We find the actual condition of this interesting establishment set forth in the catalogue for the academical year which has just ended.

The fact is worth recording that this academy is the oldest educational institution incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire; the first meeting of its trustees was held in 1781, or some two years before the independence of the United States was recognized by Great Britain. The founder, Dr. John Phillips, conveyed to it his large interests in a large number of tracts of land in various towns in New Hampshire, the proceeds of which were to be used for the education of youth in the English, Latin and Greek languages, and in other liberal arts and sciences. The original endowment has been supplemented at various times by gifts which now amount, collectively, to half a million dollars. The accommodations for students have been increased in proportion to the resources of the institution. Besides the large central edifice devoted to the work of instruction, there are now four dormitories, chemical and physical laboratories and a spacious gymnasium, all situated in or near the school grounds. The school course covers four years, and the number of students in the four classes known respectively as the senior, upper middle, lower middle and junior is at present 263. They are drawn from all parts of the Union New Hampshire and Massachusetts each sending 50: the rest of New England, 25: New York and Pennsylvania, each 31; New Jersey, 9; the Western States, collectively, 33; the former slave States and the Dis trict of Columbia, 34.

Now let us see what these students pay for a secondary education of a high grade which qualifies them to enter the foremost American universities, or to apply at once for admission to law, medical or scientific schools. It appears that the expenses of a student living in a dormitory and boarding at the dining hall, where food is supplied at cost, vary from \$233 to \$408 for the school year, the tuition fee being \$100. The fundamental expenses of a student lodging and boarding in a private family are naturally larger, and are computed at about \$600. Nevertheless, an intelligent and industrious student, though he be almost destitute of means, may obtain an education at Exeter Academy. There are at present thirty-six endowed scholarships, to the income of each of which the trustees add an amount equal to the tuition fee. These, as thus augmented, are worth from \$125 to \$240 a year. The trustees have also established twenty scholarships, the Income of each of which is equal to the year's tuition, and twenty-four scholarships each equal to one-half of the tuition fee. These scholarships are assigned to students according to their scholarship, consideraships may be compared to the so-called 'collegers" who are said to be on the foundation" at Eton and Winchester.

The curriculum of Phillips Exeter Academy corresponds to that of the great Engmarily to fit young men for admission to the freshman class at Harvard, Yale and Princeton universities. The Latin books read include the Lives of Conxectus NEPOS. CASAR'S Commentaries on the Galie War and on the Clvii War, SALLUST'S Catiline, many of Cicero's Orations and from many leading Brahmins, who see in one of the treatises De Senectute or De Amicitia, Ovid's Metamorphoses, VIRthe Latin poets, and two of TERENCE's plays. to read Latin at sight and to exhibit a certain prose. The Greek course comprehends four books of XENOPHON'S Anabasis, besides extracts from that author's Hellenica and | the lower is considered, and the humiliation Cyropædia, the Greek Testament, three books of the Hiad and four of the Odyssey, selections from HERODOTUS and substantially that of CHILDS, surveyed one or more of the orations of Lysias.

The mathematical course begins with advanced arithmetic and covers elementary algebra, plane geometry, plane trigonometry and solid geometry or advanced alge-

bra and analytic geometry. Throughout the course a great deal of attention is paid to the English language, and the study of chemistry, physics, history and either the French or German language is required. The usual measures are taken to encourage emulation. The names of the students in each class who have attained the grade of honor men are printed in the annual catalogue. There is a prize for general excellence, and prizes for proficiency in writing English, in public speaking and in mathematics. The value of the instruction imparted is attested by the distinction acquired by graduates of the academy at the principal American universities. We should add that candidates for admission to the school must be at least 14 years of age, and must pass an examination in English, in the history of the United States and in elementary arithmetic. The studies of the junior class are compulsory, and so is physical training throughout the course. After the first year some freedom in the choice of studies is allowed, but the selection must be made within carefully defined limits.

The roll of its graduates supplies the proof of the services which have been rendered by Phillips Exeter Academy. When, in 1838, Dr. BENJAMIN ABBOTT resigned the position of Principal, which he had held for fifty years, there was a reunion of his former pupils, at which DANIEL WEBSTER presided. Among the alumni who spoke on that occasion were EDWARD EVERETT, ALEX-ANDER H. EVERETT, JOHN G. PALFREY, JOHN HALE and CALEB CUSHING. In 1883 the one hundredth anniversary of the opening of the school was commemorated. GEORGE BANCBOFT presided at the dinner, and attention was directed to the fact that the list of the school's alumni included seven Cabinet Ministers, five Ministers Plenipotentiary, eight Senators and twenty Representatives in Congress, twenty Justices of the Supreme Courts of States, five Justices of United States Courts, twelve Governors of States, sixty-one college Presidents and professors, five hundred and ten lawyers, two hundred and sixty-two physicians, two hundred and forty-five physicians, one hundred and eighty-five clergymen, thirty-six authors, including four conspicuous historians, three Major-Generals in the United States Army and two Rear Admirals of the navy, besides scores of officers in both departments of the national service. In the present academical year the alumni number about six thousand and represent every State and Territory of the Union, besides many foreign countries.

Water Wasting in New York.

The testimony of expert witnesses before the Assembly committee, corroborated by general observation, was scarcely needed to establish the fact that more water is wasted in New York than in any other city of the world, and that New York wastes more water in a year than

some large cities use. The waste of water in New York has entailed the issue of bonds for a vast municipal debt, and imposed taxes upon householders and others which have operated to the detriment of manufacturing concerns in New York and have caused their removal

to other neighboring cities. The daily consumption of water in the city of London is, approximately, 175,000,-000 gallons. The average daily consumption of water in the city of Paris is 100. 000,000 gallons. The average daily consumption in New York county for the year 1898 was 243,000,000 gallons. London had, by the estimate of the Registrar-General, in 1897, a population of 4,465, 000. The population of Paris, by the municipal census of 1896, was 2,500,-000, and the population of New York county, according to the Board of Health timate, is now 2,040,000. New York, in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, uses considerably more water than either London or Paris, and the whole of New York uses much more than do London and Paris together. Moreover, the waste of water beyond necessary and legitimate uses is increasing faster than new sources of supply are secured, and during the past ten years the average daily consumption of water in this town, already larger than any other great city in the world, has increased

more than thirty-five gallons per capita. The conditions justify these statements by the Commissioner of Water Supply in

his annual report: "Making the most liberal allowances for increase in population and buildings, and new demands on the water service by new contrivances and methods for domestic, industrial and sanitary uses of the water, the conclusion is irresistible that enormous quantities are carelessly or wantenly wasted with-out any possible benefit in any direction. No other arge municipality on the face of the globe uses and wastes its public and artificial water supply in such profusion, and few, if any, of them have such quantities of supply at their disposal for use or waste. If such rate of increase should continue, all previous calculations and estimates as to the future necessities of the city and the means of meeting them will be set at usught. The lesson to be drawn from this experience is the absolute necessity of effective measures to restrain waste, even at time when there is a superabundance of supply, because prolonged and unchecked indulgence in waste creates a fixed habit which cannot be overcome, as long as the material for waste is at hand."

In these words the situation is described, at an opportune time for water saving, the beginning of summer, when the demand for water increases greatly, and not long before the annual water-tax collections, amounting to \$7,000,000 a year. Practically all of that sum goes to maintain the Department of Water Supply, to pay the interest on the water debt, and to provide for the liquidation of water bonds.

Progressive Mohammedanism.

The fact that there are now not far from 130,000,000 Mussulmans under the British flag certainly entitles England to be called the greatest Mohammedan power in the world. The Mussulman population of India alone is estimated to be about 80,000,000, and is steadily increasing, not only by natural growth, but by accretions from the Hindoos. To such an extent is this going on that it has brought forth a cry of alarm the tendency of their people to accept the doctrines of the more militant faith the approaching end of their own influence.

Among the things that seem to attract the Brahminical Hindoo most to Mohammedanism is the absence of caste and the equality of all within the faith. It is not difficult to understand this when the contempt with which the higher castes regard ever present of the lower castes and subcastes. The aggressiveness of Mohammedanism as compared with the passivity of Brahminism also counts for much, and will, reasonable to suppose that this state of aquarter of a century ago. The former, or I some skill in the writing of Greek press. greater exertion in the struggle for life

makes itself more manifest to the intellectual faculties and material senses.

The next large agglomeration of Mussulmans under the British flag is in Africa, in the Niger territories and the West Const protectorate. The total population is calculated at about 87,000,000, of which the larger number are fanatical followers of the prophet of Islam. They are, however, without any but a very rudimentary education, and to meet the deficiencies in this repect it is proposed to establish at some point on the West African coast, probably at Sierra Leone, a central educational institution for the higher training of Mohammedan youth, somewhat similar to that about to be established at Khartoum in memory of Gen. Gordon. The object of the institution would be to supply Mohammedan teachers of the English language in the Niger States, and so bring about a common literary intercourse between the Mussulman teachers and students on the Nile and West Coast in the English lan-

guage, as there is now in the Arabic. The results of such institutions as that projected in West Africa, and actually begun at Khartoum, cannot fail to be far reaching. Under their teachings, coupled with that of the numerous Mussulman edutional influences in India, a bond of union would be created between all Mohammedans under the British flag by means of the English language that should be productive of effects of great consequence to the progress and civilization of the Dark Continent and on the Mussulmans of the Ottoman Empire.

Already the British-Mussulman influences are making themselves felt in many ways in Turkey, and quite recently the British Government found it necessary to intervene on behalf of British Indian Mussulmans against the extortions practiced on them during the pilgrimage to Mecca. To the Sultan the presence of British Mussulmans at Mecca and their influence on his own subjects have for many years been a matter of great concern, more particularly on account of the disaffection always more or less active in Arabia. In the natural order of events there appears every likelihood that another generation will witness great changes in the political and material conditions of the Mohammedan world, and It is quite certain that the direction they may take will be under the guidance of the educational establishments and influences to which allusion has been made.

Columbia

The yacht Columbia, launched yesterday in defence of the America Cup, is to revive the glories of international racing, we trust victoriously. In the year in which the modest Puritan outsailed the Genesta competition for the honor of furnishing a cup defender was divided among four parties, represented respectively by the Puritan. Priscilla, Gracie and Bedouin. In the Mayflower's year there were again four, owning the Mayflower, Puritan, Priscilla and Atlantic. In the Volunteer year there were two, with the Volunteer and Mayflower. In the Vigilant year there were four, bringing out Vigilant, Colonia, Pilgrim and Jubi-lee. In the Defender year there were two, with the Defender and Vigilant, But this year there is but one, the Columbia and the Defender, the only other boat thought of

to the same owners. While cup defending ownership has shrunk, however, the expenditures have grown without ceasing. The Defender's bill would have eaten up that for several Puritans, and the Columbia's will probably exceed the Defender's.

in comparison with the former, belonging

Of those two boats the cost is likely to be nearer half a million than quarter of a million of dollars. We can't undertake to measure the recompense that has accrued and is coming to the owners of these craft in return for their victory, but what countless millions' worth of fun and satisfaction the American people have had out of them! They will have millions more this summer. We shall have trial races that will make a delightful yachting season, independent of

that, and two continents will wish they were there to do the same. Bigger and bigger and bigger have been our cup defenders, and bigger and bigger and bigger have been their rig, and faster and faster and faster have they salled. The Columbia is the biggest of all. She is to have the biggest wings, and we have no shadow of doubt that she will be the fastest. Good luck to her, and our compliments to

the coming cup race; thousands will see

her vachting fathers. Remembering the mathematical precision with which the HERRESHOFFS have made the new boat better than the old, we may predict with unqualified confidence that the Columbia will beat the Defender, marvellous as the latter is. She will, in all reasonable probability, keep the cup; but that Is spoken aside, for we will welcome the Shamrock with all the open-minded respect that the good spirit of her owner and the

Possibly the point of actual conflict between the Transvaal Government and England may be reached before long in this way: It has been announced that the Delagon Bay Railway arbitration award will be made in August or September next, when the Portuguese Government will be called on to pay over an indemnity amounting to a very large sum o the heirs of the original concessionnaire and those associated with him in the construction of the line, from whom it was taken over by the Portuguese authorities for non-fulfilment of the terms of the concession. It is known that the fluancial situation of the Portuguese Government is such as to make it practically impossible for it to find the money, amounting, it variously stated, to from \$25,000,000 to \$35,000,000. In default of payment by the Portuguese Government of the amount of the award, whatever it may be, it has been expected that the British Government would intervene, and taking over the railway as security, make good Portugal's default.

known skill of her designer deserve.

assent of Germany to this arrangement is said o have been secured. Rumor, however, has it that from some source or another, the Transvani Government is already in possession of part of the amount required to meet the terms of the arbitrators' award, and is assured of the remainder, and will pay it over to the Portuguese Government or to its order immediately after the de-cision is known. In this way the Transvani Government would substitute itself for the Portuguese, under special agreement in some form with the latter. The difficulty that would then arise, under the convention of 1884, would be that the ratification of the arrangement would be subject to the veto of the British Government within six months from the date of its conclusion. It is at this point that the climax of the troubles between the two Governments, that of the Transvaul and that of Great Britain, would be reached, and

might be expected to result in war. The root of all the trouble between the Transvaal and England appears to be the ineradicable distrust of the leaders of the Dutch of South Africa in the policy of the Colonial Office in London and of the libodes party in Cape Colony. The strength of the Afrikander Bond was never greater than now, or the party mo/s united. Their object, however, is not the disruption of the British connection. | conscious.

which they look on as necessary to the peace of South Africa, but to resist what they look on as covert attacks on their rights of self-gov-

CANADA'S MILITIA.

Its Gradual Separation from the British

Army. MONTREAL, June 8. - The discontent with the way in which the appointment to the chief command of the military forces of Canada is at present made is finding expression at last in Parliament. Col. James Domville, member for Kings county, in the province of New Brunswick, is introducing a bill at Ottawa authorizing the nomination of a Canadian officer to the post of General commanding the Canadian militia, and his notion meets with almost universal approval. Ever since the British Government assumed the right to appoint the su perior in command of the militia of Canada there has been chronic dissatisfaction among all ranks with the way in which the command was exercised, and the last two incumbents of the office retired from it well pleased to escape from the incessant friction and unpleasantness encountered in the discharge of their duties. They, however, had sufficient prudence to

abstain from openly proclaiming that the whole object of their mission was to make the Canadian militia an adjunct of the British Army for Imperial purposes, as Major-Gen. Hutton has done. It is this that has determined Canadians that their militia must be commanded in future by a Canadian responsible solely to the Canadian Government, and not by a stranger exercising his authority under a mandate derived from the other side of the Atlantic.

under a mandate derived from the other side of the Atlantic.

A Canadian writing to one of the papers gives expression to the general feeling on the subject in a way that will commend itself to Americans. After pointing out the number of Canadians who have distinguished themselves in the armies of other countries, he says:

"We have to-day our general staff school; our grand manceuvres are commanded by our own officers. If they can command brigades why should they not be denerals of brigade? Why this continued inferiority imposed on our military men? We are the only people on the American continent subjected to this humiliation, and Col. Domville's bill will put an end to it, for the General commanding our military will necessarily have that grade."

As to Col. Domville himself, no one can accuse him of disloyal sentiments in connection with his proposal. His father was a Colonel in the British artillery, and he himself is Colonel of the Eighth "Princess Louise's New Brunswick Hussars," organized just thirty years ago and having for its moto "Ref patriaque fidelis." But he is also a good Canadian.

No Scientific Proof of Immortality.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your editorial this morning is well headed, "An Attempt to Prove Immortality by Scientific Means." It is not within the province of science to prove immortality. Science treats upon certain known laws of nature. There are doubtless laws of nature still unknown to man. Not until an unknown law of nature becomes known does this law become a part of science. As immortality is not a known law of nature science cannot treat upon it. Experiments may be made with an individual, by which it is supposed this individual communicates with a departed soul; but so far as proving immortality by experimenting upon one individual, it never can amount to any more than "an attempt."

All Spiritualistic attempts in this direction have failed, because every attempt was made with a person who was selected and known beforehand by the person making the experiment. This is enough to cause a suspicion of collusion. So it is with Prof. Hyslop's experiment with Mrs. Piper. He has selected a person with whom Dr. Hodgson has already experimented unsuccessfully. Why select Mrs. Plper? Is she the only immortal being on earth? If immortality is a law of nature, that is, if one human being is immortal, all other human beings must be immortal. In this case there is no necessity for selecting Mrs. Piper; the professor himself should be able to communicate with the departed. If a person came to me and said. "I have positive proof that the soul is immortal, because I have conversed with neople who have departed from this life." I would answer: "What you say may be true. You have your proof, but I have only your word for it." So it is with Prof. Hyslog and Mrs. Piper. If by experimenting with Mrs. Piper he should arrive at (what is to him) positive evidence of the immortality of the soul, we would only have his word for it. This is not enough. We demand demonstration and not pree statements. Prof. Hyslop has a difficult task on his hands, and, to my mind, he will fail to cause "such a wave of excitement as the world has never seen before." F. M. C. New York, June 9. person with whom Dr. Hodgson has already

Fair-Haired Cuban Orphan for Adoption. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir; On a recent tour of inspection through the province of Santa Clara, I accompanied the commander of the Military Department in visiting the Casa de Benefleencia, rphan asylum at Trinidad. The matron called the

little waifs together, and they came forward to meet the visitors.
One little girl quickly attracted attention from the fact that she appeared out of place among her dark and brunette companions. Her hair was golden, her complexion very fair and her eyes clear blue, with an expression of sweetness that is indescribable. Her manner, too, for a child of 10, was at once refined and charming. Upon inquiry it was learned that her name was Atanavia Aguillar, and that she was the orphaned child of parents who had formerly lived in affluence, but were reduced to penury and death during the long struggle for Cuban freedom. Is there not among the readers of THE SUN some good family, or some lonely household that has onged for a child to brighten its gloom, that would like to adopt little Atanasia and bring her up under American home influence? If so, let them com-municate with Tuz Sus, to whom in sending this I

HAVANA, June 6. The Coney Island Question.

also forward my address.

To the Editon of The Sus-Sir. In view of the fact that vice is a volcano which is bound to crupt about ever so often, isn't Coney Island as it is o more benefit to New York city than a pure and placid park on its site would be? We have parks a plenty, and can have more; but without a Coney Island would the parks long exercise a purifying influence? Hadn't we better know just where the crater of the volcano is and let her crupt under surveilla volcano is and let her crupt under surveillance rather than plugup the vent and have the thing banging loose and blowing out the Loud knows when, or how or where? Instead of restricting Coney it should be given even greater liberty, and let co for rail it is worth. There would be that much less of it in the city, and the city would be morally benefited by that much.

Ngw Yong, June v.

BOJOURNER.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SOr Just now there is considerable talk about turning Coney Island into a public park. That would be a very good idea if the majority of the people wanted it so, but I don't think they do, as they go down there Sunday after Sunday as well as other days, by thousands and contribute to its support.

There was a scheme to make a park there years ago, and several acres of land were acquired, but the plans never took shape.

From the cycle path to the end of the Concourse and from Surf avenue to the ocean would make a large perk with a very fine beach. This was the continuitrat of land intended by Brooklyn.

Retain the lower end of Coner Island, with all its fakes, &c., for that is what New Yorkers want. Those who want the park could be accommodated by the city building a park on the above tract or land.

Brookers, June 19.

C. F. L. the majority of the people wanted it so, but I don't

Woman Will Never Propose.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIFE SO Dr. Hartland Law of San Francisco comes to New York to tell an audien + that he hopes to see the time when women may propose as men now do, and he says: "It should be no social offence for her to seek in marrage as well as to give herself in marriage." All of which may be excused of the doctor on the ground that it is merely a hope of his, but it is fal-lacious in fancy and in fact. The desert sands for lacious in fancy and in fact. The desert sands for ages have drunk up the blood of mighty animals contending to the death for the possession of some fair creature which restel daintily in the shade of the poline manner of the poline sanitum for the real and the better beast. Main have fraght, too, for the favor of ladies fair, but never yet has any man sat supplied by and wastened two women fight to a finish for him. He could not do it, because he maintai instinct would force bim to stop the fight even it had to call the police. It is "an in later" for the women ever to represent a cept to industrie, as is now and has always been practiced with perfect and profitable property and by Law should in justice to his profession or plant sort out of his fertire on "Higher Physical Londrien".

New York Jones 10.

Drowned in Two Inches of Water.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer, LOGANSFORT, Ind., June 5.—Manvillo Fouet, an in mate of the County Infirmary, was drowned in a make of the county inches of water. He had been creek near here in two inches of water. He had been fishing in the creek and had gone to a shallow place to search for crawfish. He was seized with an epileptic fit, which caused him to fall face downward un-

MORTALITY IN BRAZILIAN CITIES.

More Deaths Than Births in Rio-Foreign Blood Needed to Give Vigor to the Race.

WASHINGTOY, June 10 .- A striking report on the mortality in Brazilian cities has been made to the Supervising Surgeon-General of the Marine Hospital Service by the sanitary

inspector at Rio de Janeiro. He says:
"In regard to the decided disproportion between natality and mortality in the city of Rio de Janeiro, to which I have had occasion to refer in my annual reports. Dr. Bulhoes Car-valho has made a valuable communication to the Academy of Medicina. The following shows distinctly that disproportion: In 1803, 13,527 deaths and 13,825 births; in 1804, 19,300 deaths and 13,485 births: in 1805, 18,226 deaths and 14,535 births; in 1806,

19,275 deaths and 14,425 births. "On account, however, of the fluctuating character of the population of Rio de Janeiro this disproportion is much less unfavorable than is apparently the case. Moreover, is may be positively asserted that the reported number of deaths is entirely correct, but that many births are not reported, and that in the civil registration there are many omissions. It is rare that a Brazilian family is not on an average composed of five children.

"As an important cause of that disproportion may be considered the large numbers of deaths in consequence of insufficient hygienic

may be considered the large numbers of deaths in consequence of insufficient hygienic measures; for instance, in the year 1843, when there was no serious epidemic prevailing, the number of deaths exceeded the births. The second factor is the insufficient number of survivors among the children born to compensate for the mortality resulting from the lack of hygienic precautions. As a third factor Dr. Carvaiho calls attention to the fact of the prevalence of intermarriage among Brazilians, which prevents the introduction of fresh blood for promoting the feeundity and visor of the race.

"Statistical data show that foreigners seldom marry here. Marriages between foreigners and Brazilian ladies are not frequent; still less is the number of marriages of foreigners with each other, and extremely insignificant is the number of marriages between Brazilians and foreign women. Here foreigners, with the exception of the Portuguese, contribute very little to the increase of the population; they do not usually become permanent revidents. Very different are the circumstances at Buenos Ayres. There marriages between natives and foreigners amount to 23 per cent. And of foreigners with each other about 0 per cent. In kin de Janeiro marriages of Brazilians had of the production of the Portuguese, on the telly during the year 1845, for instance, still-births excluded, the number of births of children of foreign parents was 5.407, against 1.550 births of children of Brazilian parents; that is, 74.5 per cent., arabase of the contracting parties was a Brazilian, the proportion being consequently 45.7 per cent. to 24.3 per cent.

"Just as in the Argentine Remublic the Italian immigration has contributed to the amelioration of the Spanleh blood, so it is also necessary that Brazil receive an infusion of foreign blood, which would exercise a beneficial influence in the development of the Brazilian race. This is proved by the proposes of Sao Paulo under the influence of Italian immigration. There the Italians have been acclimatized and h

AN OPPORTUNITY IN CHINA

Mr. Barrett Tells the Merchants' Club That the Time to Go In Is Now. John Barrett, formerly United States Minis-

ter to Slam, was the guest of some of the mem-bers of the Merchants' Club at the clubrooms in the New York Life Insurance building yester-day. Cornelius N. Bliss presided. Mr. Barrett sat between Mr. Bliss and ex-Mayor Strong. Mr. Barrett's talk to the members of the club followed very closely the lines of the paper he read before the Chamber of Commerce ten.

days ago on America's interests in the East, He said that there were enormous possibilities for trade in a nation which is living just as it lived 1,000 years ago. Civilization is just be ginning to break into China. Railroads and foreign influence have just begun to show the Chinese how the rest of the world lives. Once the people in the interior learn to require the things which are already in demand along the sea coast a trade will be built up that is simply enormous. "It American commerce is to have a share in that trade," said Mr. Barrett, "the attempt to get it must be made now. It is a doubly opportune time, Six months or a year ago the United States were of no importance in the East. Representatives of American trade would have had difficulty in getting attention. Since Admiral Dewey's victory the United States have become the first power in the Pacific. Everybody, high officials, merchants, foreign rosidents, the very coolies in the streets, all of them want to know what the Americans will do next. Everything said by an American, everything said or done in the name of an American commands an attentive hearing. This state of affairs obtains from Vladivostock to Singapore. But if we fail to selze the present opportunity to present the Advantages of American trade in the East, there will be no opportunities for anybody pershaps in another six months or a year."

Mr. Barrett deprecated the slowness of American houses in pushing their Eastern trade. He also advocated Lord Charles Beresford's plan of an English, Japanese and American agreement to maintain the open door in China. Such an alliance, he said, would not lead to war. It would be so strong that it would forbid war.

Mr. Barrett closed with a discussion of the Philippine question. If the United States had receded from the islands after Dewey took Mania Bar, he said, the United States had receded from the islands after Dewey took Mania Bar, he said, the United States had receded from the islands after Dewey took many hundreds of imillions of dollars to settle the affairs of the Philippines now, it will cost ishould we abandon the islands; many millions more, twenty years from now, to make half as good a footing.

President William F. King, after Mr. Barrett had spoken, thanked him in the name of the club. the people in the interior learn to require the things which are already in demand along

THE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION. A Treasury Official Presents a Draft of a Hill to Control Trusts.

WASHINGTON, June 10.-The Industrial Commission expected to examine John Arbuckle. the coffee man, in regard to the sugar war this morning, but a letter was received from Mr. Arbunkle saying that his health would not per mit him to testify at present and asking to be excused.

L. N. Punitsky of the customs division of the Treasury Department testified in regard to the tariff on sugar. He said that the differential duty could not well be reduced. It was not injurious to the consumers, while it protected the refluers, and the success of refluers redounded to the benefit of the consumer. He thought that rechars tariff legislation might be invoked to control the trusts. He read a draft of a hill empowering the President to reduce the duty on articles produced by a trust whenever he thought the trust was charging exorbitant prices. The President was to act when the trust raised the price of its produce and lowered the wages of its employees. Senator Mantle asked if the President should not have this power when either contingency came. The bill was changed to mees Senator Mantle's views and he said he would introduce it in the senate.

A sub-committee of the Industrial Commission, consisting of Senator Kyle and Mesers. A L. Harris and E. D. Conger, has been appointed to investigate the so-called grain elevator trust in the West. The sub-committee will probably visit Duluth, Minneapolis and other grain centres of the West. Treasury Department testified in regard to the

STRANGELY CURED OF STUTTERING.

A Mauser Builet Carried Away Private Reds mond's Impediment of Speech. Mangla, May 8.—The curious freaks the Mauser bullet has performed in its coursings through the systems of fighting Americans in the late wars have resulted in some queer tales. The latest is the experience of Private H. E. Redmond, Company C. First Colorade Volunteer Infantry, who, when he enlisted. stuttered so badly that the recruiting officer came near leaving him off the rolls. Private

Redmend was wounded in the battle of Marie

quina on March 31. Now his wound is healed and he stutters no more. A Mauser bullet struck him in the face. passed diagonally downward through his mouth passed diagonally downward through his mouth and made its exit near the back of the neck. It was considered a frightful wound by the surgeons, but fledmond proceeded to recover even faster than patients with less painful injuries. Now all that can be seen of the wound is a small, livid spot to the left of the nose and above the upper lip. Redmond chews hard tack with the greatest zest and tells stories he has not been able to finish in years on account of his halting speech. He insists that the Mauser builet carried away his vocal impediance.